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Softball A pair of freshmen lead the Gamecocks to a double-header victory over UTC. **Page 10**

The Chanticleer

"You couldn't fool your mother on the foolingest day of your life if you had an electrified fooling machine."

Volume 56, Issue 20

Student newspaper of Jacksonville State University since 1934

February 28, 2008

ONLINE

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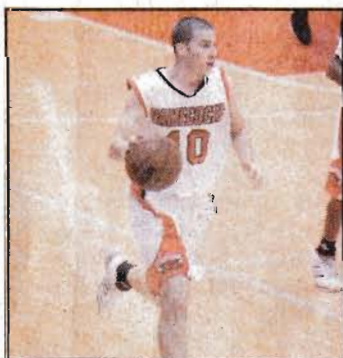
INSIDE

Constitution reform

JSU's College Council for Constitutional Reform brings in the experts to educate students on how the lengthy Alabama constitution bears an impact on their lives.

Story on **page 2**

SPORTS



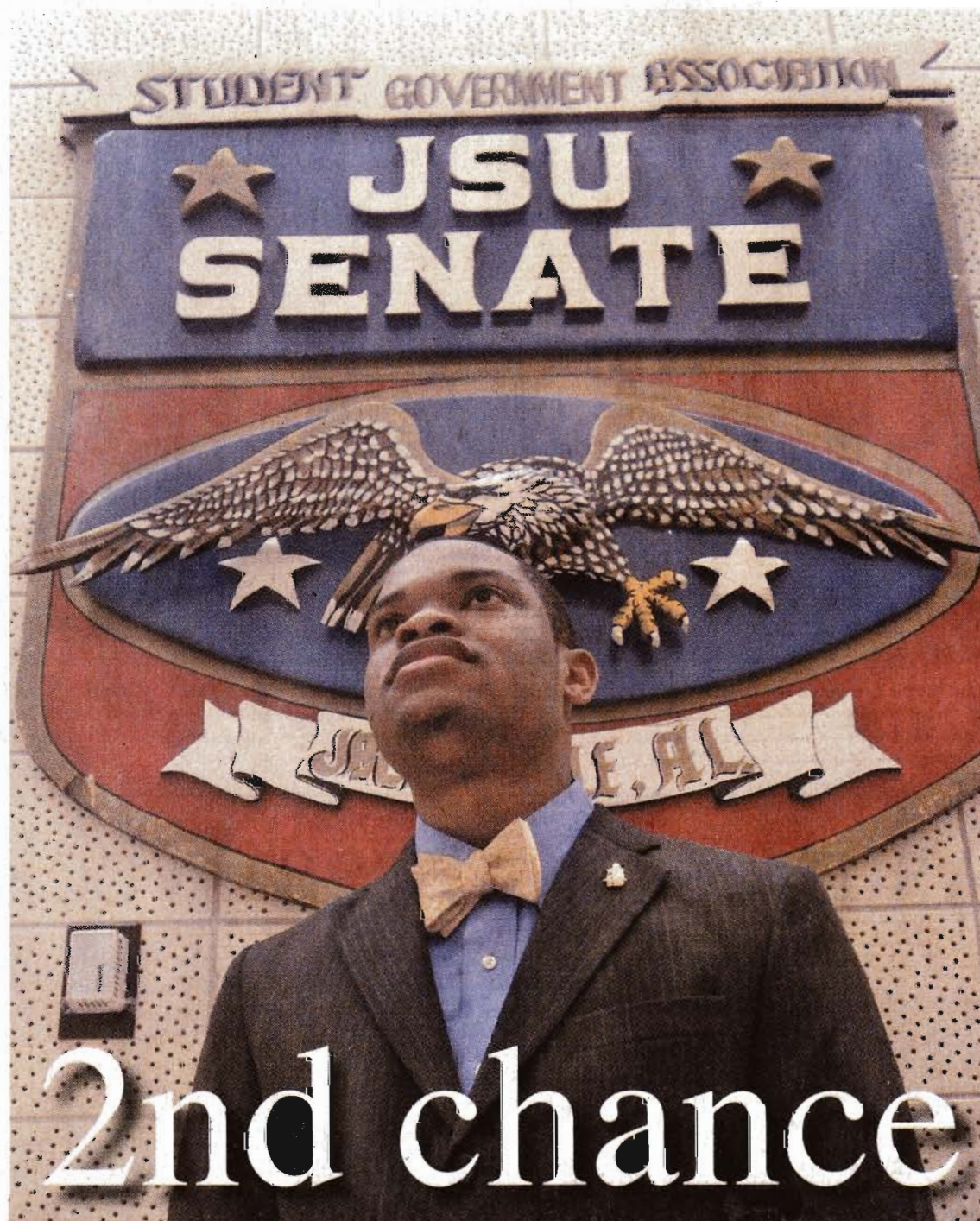
Ginn's departure

Gamecock point guard and local product Will Ginn is among the senior class who will be playing its final games soon.

Story on **page 7**

QUESTION of the WEEK

• SGA ELECTIONS 2008 •



2nd chance

125 and counting

Jax State celebrates milestone anniversary

Jacob Probus
Staff Reporter

As of Friday, Feb. 22, Jacksonville State University had been around for exactly one century and a quarter of another.

In those 125 years, it has had four names and 11 presidents, and it has risen from humble beginnings to become the fourth largest university in Alabama.

To celebrate the anniversary, the university is continuing to promote a capital campaign called "The Power of 125 ... Join the Celebration!" It is a \$25 million, five-year endeavor "to mark and exceed excellence existing in the five colleges of JSU," according to President Dr. William Meehan.

JSU is planning several signature events to mark the anniversary, according to Tim Garner, head of outside marketing for the school. A coffee table book exploring the first 125 years in written history and photographs is in the works as well.

In 1883, when the University was founded, it was called Jacksonville State Normal School. There were three instructors and three departments: Mathematics, English and primary. By 1884, there were 247 students on the roll book. The campus consisted of one two-story brick building, which sat on 12 acres. Students could begin with elementary school and continue on through college graduation at the school, according to the 2007-2008 JSU Fact Book.

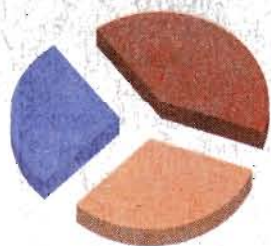
Now the university consists of five separate colleges, with 36 departments and 9,077 students enrolled last fall. Every state in America is home to JSU alumni. Students come from 47 states and 70 countries. The campus has grown to include more than 50 buildings on 459 acres and is home to the tallest academic building in the state.

class who will be playing its final games soon.

Story on [page 7](#)

QUESTION of the WEEK

Are you happy with your living situation in Jacksonville?



■ Yes
41%
■ I live outside of Jacksonville
31%
■ No
28%



"Yes, I like that my rent is cheap, I like that I am close to campus. The only thing that is sub-par is my apartment's maintenance people, the old appliances and the fact that I am on the third floor."

— Kassi Gulliford
Senior

Next week's question:

What's the best part about March?

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2nd chance

SGA presidential candidate Moody Duff III stands in front of the JSU Senate seal in the TMB Auditorium. Until Wednesday, Duff was unopposed. Photo by Bethany Harbison / The Chanticleer

Duff to run for SGA presidency again, this time against Nix

Bethany Harbison
News Editor

For Moody Duff III, the path to the Student Government Association presidency of Jacksonville State University has been a winding one.

Last year, a mere six votes stood between Duff and his dream — but David Jennings, who is now finishing his presidential tenure, took home the win. Disheartened but determined, Duff returned, humbled, to become an SGA senator once again.

As Duff began to hit the presidential campaign trail for the second time, now against current Vice President of Student Senate Jennifer Nix, his journey shifted gears yet again.

Seven days before the first vote could be cast, Nix opted out of the race, offering Duff an assured victory — but all that changed on Wednesday, Feb. 27, when Nix re-entered the race.

"I can't even tell you what my reason was (for dropping out). I was tired," Nix said. "But I looked inside myself and found the energy. When I said that I was dropping out, it was never official."

Though Duff thought he had victory in hand and was one more step nearer to his goal, he said, even before discovering that Nix was back in the race, that he was being careful not to become too confident or complacent.

"Of course, I'm happy, but at the same time, anything can happen in an election," Duff said. "SGA hasn't printed the ballots yet, so I'm just going to keep on campaigning as if she was in the race."

With Nix in the running once again, Duff's decision to continue his campaign proved to be a wise one. Though Nix lost three days of campaign time,

See "Election," page 3

SEE A FULL LIST OF THE CANDIDATES AND THEIR PLATFORMS ON PAGE 5

last fall. Every state in America is home to JSU alumni. Students come from 47 states and 70 countries. The campus has grown to include more than 50 buildings on 459 acres and is home to the tallest academic building in the state.

WISE to bring 'V-Day' to area

By Bethany Harbison
News Editor

In the ten years since the first performance of Eve Ensler's The Vagina Monologues in 1998, V-Day, a global movement to stop violence against women and girls,

has helped bring the play and its message to thousands of colleges, universities and communities. The play's open talk about sexuality and its tendency to take social taboos head-on often brings along a cloud of controversy with each performance.

But that has not stopped Jacksonville State University's Women's Issues Support and Empowerment (WISE) from bringing the play to rural Alabama.

On March 31, in the JSU McClellan Center, at 7:00, WISE will present The Vagina Monologues — a night that will have been a long time coming, according to WISE's alumni leader and founder Trace Fleming-Smith.

See "V-Day," page 3

Professors aid medical school hopefuls

Bethany Harbison
News Editor

Sugary-sweet recommendation letters may be the norm, but Dr. Benjamin Blair, microbiology professor at JSU, considers brutal honesty the best policy. It's a policy that is just one part of the department's strategy to get JSU students noticed — and accepted — by the professional programs they choose.

"This has caught the attention of the professional programs," Blair said. "They know that if I write a good solid recommendation for a student that it is deserved and that the information is not simply a form letter sent out for each student."

Though both Blair and colleague Dr. Mark Meade both wrote an average of 15 letters a week last semester, Blair explained that helping students find their way into medical, dental, pharmacy, veterinary or other programs is no easy task. Most such programs, Blair said, are flooded with hundreds, even thousands of applications

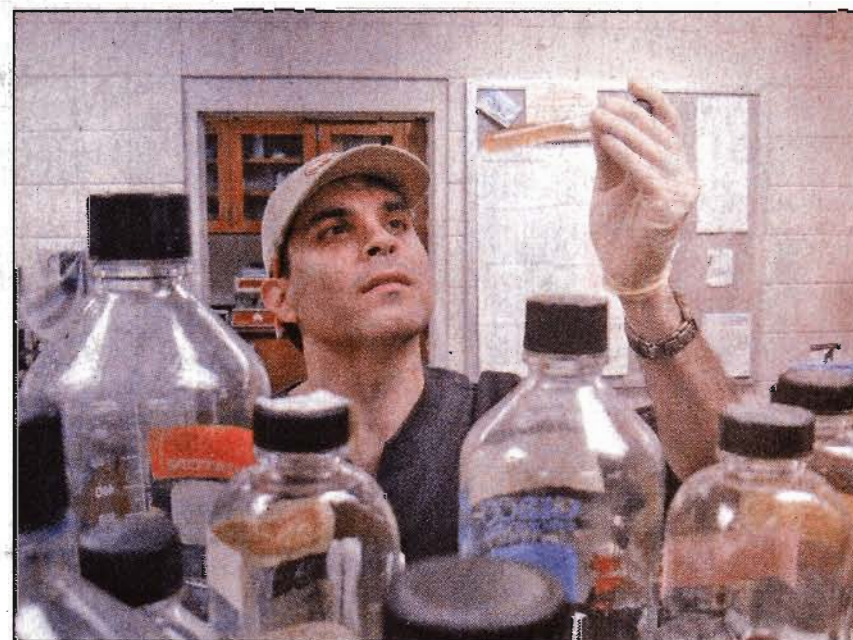
— and the number of available seats is comparatively few.

The relationships formed by JSU's pre-health professional committee are key, Blair said. The committee currently consists of Dr. Blair, Dr. Meade, Dr. James Rayburn, Dr. Roger Sauterer and Dr. Al Nichols — each of whom shoulders an advising load of up to 100 students.

"If (the schools' representatives) get to know me, then when a JSU student applies, they will remember that and pay attention," said Blair, who, along with Meade, recently returned from a meeting of the Advisors of Pre-Health Professional Students at UAB.

Another way Blair and the committee seek to establish JSU as a reputable source of students is ensuring that classes are the best they can be.

In premedical classes, students are now often broken into groups and asked to determine the diseases that could fit a list



See "Medical school," page 3

Pre-vet student Fidel Lebron, a transfer student from Puerto Rico, looks at his test tube. Photo by Webb Dillard / The Chanticleer

Announcements

• International Week presents the annual Taster's Fair, Saturday, March 1, 2008, beginning at 5:00 p.m., an international exhibit for your taste buds! JSU international students will prepare a sample of foods from their home countries, and you get to try it all for free! Also, we will have performances of dance, music and drama by international students after the dinner.

The Chanticleer Announcements Policy:

Any JSU student organization or University office may submit items for the Announcements column. Submissions must be typed and limited to 50 words. Submissions must also include contact information. This information does not count toward the 50-word total. Submissions must arrive at the Chanticleer office in Room 180, Self Hall, or e-mailed to chantyeditor@gmail.com, by noon on the Tuesday prior to the desired publication date.

The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission for any reason. We also reserve the right to edit for brevity, clarity and style.

Campus Crime

Tuesday, Feb. 26

• Student Pamela Lawrence reported a theft of property from the Mason Hall parking lot. A book, valued at \$75.00, was stolen.

Monday, Feb. 25

• Student Morrell M. Jones reported a theft of property from Room 110 of Penn House Apartments. Stolen property included a pair of sneakers and \$100.00 in cash.

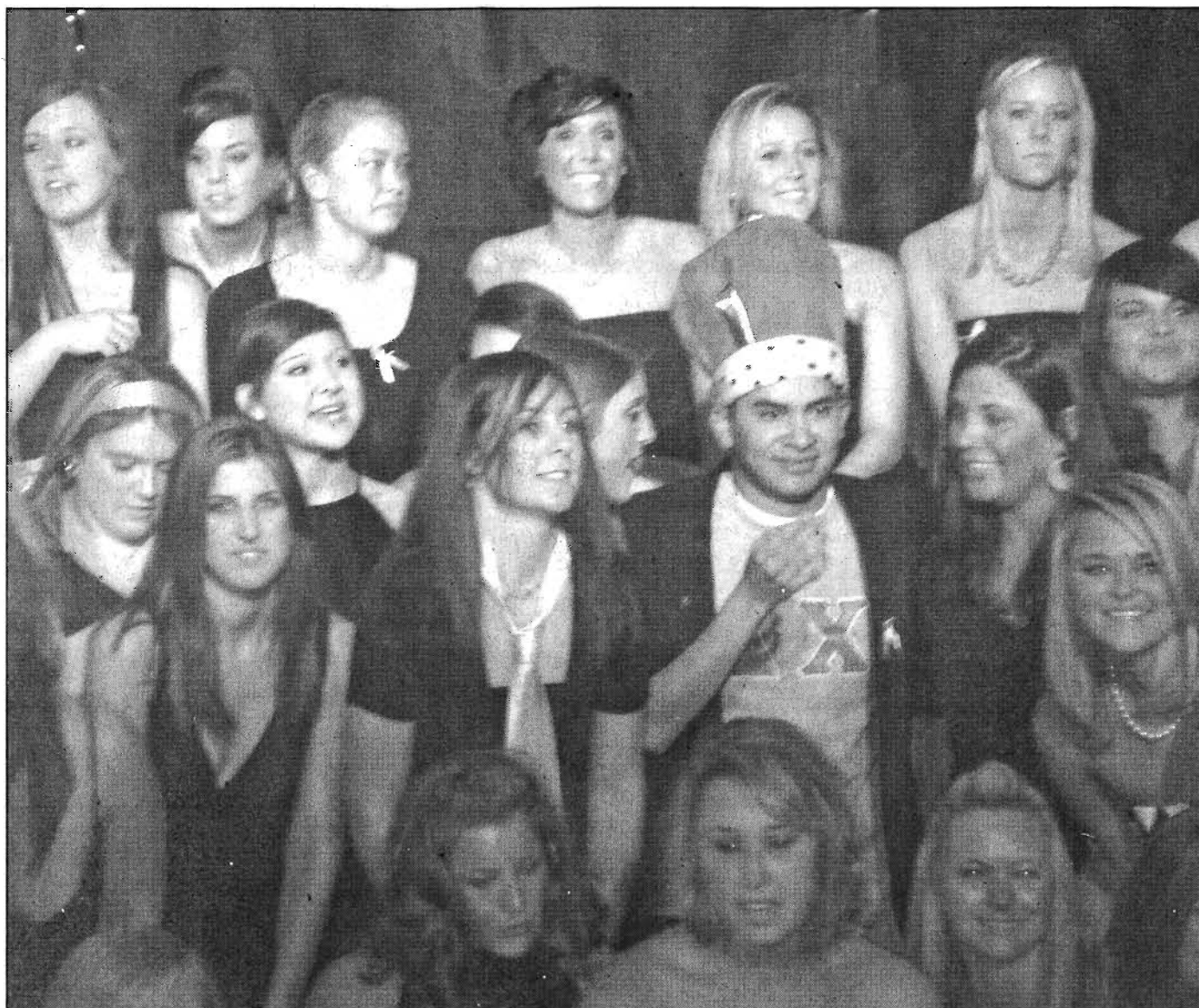
• A domestic violence incident was reported in Sparkman Hall. The incident occurred at 2:00 a.m. on Feb. 24.

• Student Latorry S. Atkinson reported an unlawful breaking and entering of a vehicle, which was parked at Crow Hall at the time of the incident. Stolen property included a PSP PlayStation, a baseball strike counter and a 30 GB iPod.

• Student Jeremy E. Vaughn reported an unlawful breaking and entering of his vehicle from the parking lot of Self Hall. Stolen property included a Clarion CD player and a pack of Basic cigarettes.

Saturday, Feb. 23

Their leading man



The women of Zeta Tau Alpha crowd around student Edwin Vasquez after naming him their "Big Man on Campus" during their males-only talent show Monday, Feb. 25, in Leone Cole Auditorium. During the days preceding the event, members of ZTA manned tables in the TMB lobby to encourage passersby to attend or participate in the event. Proceeds from admission sales were used to help promote breast cancer awareness. Photo by Ryan Rutledge / The Mimosa

AKAs present Skee Week

Katie Freeman
Staff Reporter

Alpha Kappa Alpha's Skee Week has come and gone once again. It's a week of events that AKA does every year, but members explained that this year was special.

This year, Alpha Kappa Alpha celebrated 100 years as a sorority.

Alpha Kappa Alpha was the first Greek-lettered sorority established and incorpo-

and school supplies for Imagination Library, an organization AKA works with to get books and supplies to children under five years old. They said the turnout for the mixer was great, and that other sororities donated lots of books and supplies to Imagination Library, a foundation AKA works with to get books to children under five years old.

Whiteside also serves as technology co-chairman in the class that AKA teaches. The class was the last event of the week,

how to use them," Whiteside said. "It's important for us to go out into the community and get the older generation to come so that they can participate."

Jennifer Brown is the technology chairman for the class. She explained that this is AKA's undergraduate signature program.

Brown said, "I hope that more people come because these are programs that are used everyday."

Ruby Evans, a student in the class, was

CAMPUS BRIEFS

• At the Southeastern Journalism Conference in Oxford, Miss., on Saturday, Feb. 23, department of communication students **Brandon Hollingsworth, Kevin Jeffers** and **Bethany Harbison**, won awards in journalism. Hollingsworth was named Best Radio Journalist and won first place in an on-site competition for radio newswriting and anchoring. Jeffers was awarded second place in page design. Harbison won fourth place for news reporting.

• On Saturday, Feb. 16, 2008, 282 freshman and transfer students registered for classes at **Preview Day**. According to President Meehan, crowd size at the event made it the third largest such event in nine years. Dozens of booths were set up in the gym of Stephenson Hall, and organizations and departments from across the campus were represented so that prospective students could gain a feel for the JSU community.

• **Joan Ingram**, a lab technician for the department of biology, was named Employee of the Month for the month of February 2008. Ingram first began work at JSU on January 7, 2002. This recognition automatically nominates Ingram for Employee of the Year, an award that will be given in December 2008.

• **The Second Annual Martin Hall Chili Cook-off** will be held March 5 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., with all proceeds benefiting JSU's Relay for Life team.

corner and a 30 GB iPod.
 • Student Jeremy E. Vaughn reported an unlawful breaking and entering of his vehicle from the parking lot of Self Hall. Stolen property included a Clarion CD player and a pack of Basic cigarettes.

Saturday, Feb. 23

• Minor consumption of alcohol was reported at Pete Mathews Coliseum, occurring between the hours of 12:00 - 12:30 a.m.

Information in the campus crime column is obtained from incident and arrest reports at the JSU Police Department in Sallis Hall. These records are public documents which any individual has the right to examine under Alabama state law. If you believe this information to be in error, please call 782-4704, or contact JSUPD at 782-5050.

The Week in Events

Thursday, February 28

• *Fiddler on the Roof*, Ernest Stone Performing Arts Center, Mainstage, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
 • A Night Honoring Motown Legends, Leone Cole Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 29

• *Fiddler on the Roof*, Ernest Stone Performing Arts Center, Mainstage, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 1

• *Fiddler on the Roof*, Ernest Stone Performing Arts Center, Mainstage, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
 • International Taster's Fair, Leone Cole Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 2

• *Fiddler on the Roof*, Ernest Stone Performing Arts Center, Mainstage, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Monday, March 3

• Charity Denim Ticket Sale, TMB 2nd Floor Lobby, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 4

• AFTERdark (featuring Teshashii & Dave Barnes in concert) Pete Matthews Coliseum, 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 5

• Greek Live Inductions, McCluer Chapel, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
 • Minority Student Meeting, Leone Cole Auditorium, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Alpha Kappa Alpha's Skee Week has come and gone once again. It's a week of events that AKA does every year, but members explained that this year was special.

This year, Alpha Kappa Alpha celebrated 100 years as a sorority.

Alpha Kappa Alpha was the first Greek-lettered sorority established and incorporated by African-American women. It was founded on Jan. 15, 1908 by Ethel Hedgeman Lyle at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

Tiffany Whiteside, a senior in nursing, is the Skee Week chairperson. She has the task of organizing all of the events for the week. The events included everything from grilling food to teaching a class.

On organizing the week, Whiteside said, "It's been rough, but it was a good turnout."

A mixer was organized to raise money

five years old. They said the turnout for the mixer was great, and that other sororities donated lots of books and supplies to Imagination Library, a foundation AKA works with to get books to children under five years old.

Whiteside also serves as technology co-chairman in the class that AKA teaches. The class was the last event of the week, and it focused on teaching people how to operate the Microsoft Office programs. Students are invited to the class as well, but the main target audience for this class is older people in the community.

Last week's class was the first of such a class taught by Alpha Kappa Alpha, but it will not be the last. Plans are in the works to make teaching the courses a regular service project for the sorority.

"I think it's very important because a lot of older women and men don't really have access to computers and the programs, or if they do, they don't necessarily know

so that they can participate."

Jennifer Brown is the technology chairman for the class. She explained that this is AKA's undergraduate signature program.

Brown said, "I hope that more people come because these are programs that are used everyday."

Ruby Evans, a student in the class, was very grateful for the class.

"The young lady has done a very thorough job, and I've learned a lot," Evans said.

The week is over, but the ladies of AKA said they will stop helping others in their community any time soon.

Anita Coachman, who serves as president of Alpha Kappa Alpha, summed up the spirit of her sorority by saying, "Throughout the year, we do tons of community service, but just this week we do something every day."

Constituting reform

College Council for Constitutional Reform seeks to educate students, community on the reasons why they believe the Alabama Constitution sorely needs a rewrite

Katie Freeman
 Staff Reporter

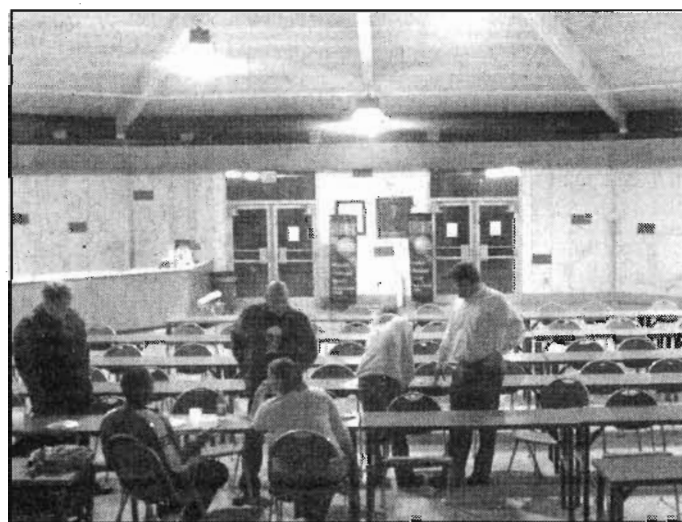
On Monday, Feb. 25, JSU students gathered in the Roundhouse to learn more about reforming Alabama's constitution.

Tim Wyatt, a 19-year-old sophomore majoring in political science, is the spokesman for the College Council for Constitutional Reform.

"Alabama's Constitution of 1901 is not a fair document," Wyatt said. "It was born out of prejudice and ignorance, and it was designed to suppress the voting block of African Americans and poor white voters. It's got close to 400,000 words in it, 45 times longer than the United States Constitution.

"The only constitution that comes close to it is the Constitution of India at 135,000 words. As a matter of fact, one amendment in the state constitution is twice the length of the United States Constitution."

That single amendment is just one of 799 in the Alabama Constitution. Wyatt explained there are only four counties in Alabama that have home rule,



The Roundhouse proved to be too large a venue for Monday night's meeting. Attendees were few, but those present found the night informative. Photo by Ryan Rutledge / *The Mimosa*

when a county can pass ordinances without going through Montgomery. Only Baldwin, Jefferson, Mobile and Tuscaloosa counties have home rule.

"Local elected officials have to lobby Montgomery in order to pass local ordinances," Wyatt said. "Jefferson County can handle local matters without going to Montgomery."

Half of the 799 amendments relate to one county only.

Hill Carmichael, campaign coordinator with Greater Birmingham Ministries' Constitutional Reform Education Campaign, was also on hand to educate about constitutional reform. Carmichael explained why a religious organization would be so involved with constitutional reform.

"If Moses can tell Pharaoh to let his people go, then we can tell the Alabama Legislature to

let our people vote," Carmichael said.

He also explained that with the current tax system, poor people are hit the hardest because they do not usually benefit from the low property tax, but they do pay a lot in sales tax.

"If you are like me and you believe that the best government is the one closest to the people, then the 1901 Constitution is definitely a broken document, because it gives all power to government, essentially, and no government was meant to have this much power over its citizens," Carmichael said.

The issue is one that often goes overlooked by students, according to Wyatt.

"The biggest problem that I have found is apathy," Wyatt said. "People love to stay as is. Ignorance is bliss. As long as people don't know why they are suffering, they can let their politicians blame it on whoever they want."

"If you know the truth, you know that your politicians are all playing us for fools and I find it insulting."

• **The Second Annual Martin Hall Chili Cook-off** will be held March 5 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., with all proceeds benefiting JSU's Relay for Life team.

SENATE MINUTES

Rundown of the Monday, Feb. 25, meeting

• Student Bill 110, which would have allocated \$300.00 to the JSU History Club, was tabled because club members were not present.

• Student Bill 111, which sought to allocate \$300.00 to Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., passed. The fraternity intends to use the funds to travel to their regional meeting.

• Student Bill 112, which sought to allocate \$300.00 to the JSU Political Science Model Arab League, passed. The league will apply the funds to their trip to South Carolina for a regional debate competition.

• It was announced that on Monday, March 3, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., a debate between the candidates for SGA executive positions will be held. The debate will occur immediately after the senate meeting in the auditorium of the Theron Montgomery Building. Brandon Hollingsworth will serve as moderator for the debate.

• A reminder was issued regarding SGA elections, which will be held March 4 and 5 in the TMB lobby.

• Senator Kelly Wright reminded all senators and others present about the upcoming Higher Education Day.

V-Day: 'Vagina Monologues' to come to Anniston

Continued from page 1

"I heard about Eve Ensler and V-Day about seven years ago," said Fleming-Smith, who graduated from JSU with a bachelor's in social work in 2005. "I thought it was wonderful but never thought that we would see it in this community."

She knew that the play's open discussion of sexuality and violence against women were controversial, but as time went on, she decided the reasons not to do the play were far too flimsy.

"The Vagina Monologues embraces these taboos and shines a big spotlight on them — for better or for worse," Fleming-Smith said. "In my opinion, when every 2.5 minutes in the U.S. there (is) a victim of a sexual crime, there is not enough time to waste on arguing about saying words like 'vagina.'"

She brought the idea to a WISE meeting, and the members loved the idea and have been at work on the project ever since.

As with any JSU student organization, WISE first had to seek permission to host The Vagina Monologues, which is intended for adults.

Fleming-Smith said that the office of student life, along with the sociology and social work departments were very helpful.

"There have been some negative responses with some folks either tearing down our flyers or defacing them," Fleming-Smith said.

Medical school: Upper-level science classes crucial to JSU students' acceptance

Continued from page 1

of symptoms. Though the new ways may better prepare students for professional programs, the transition from memorizing and regurgitating an encyclopedia of facts to a method that encourages more critical thinking has not been easy.

"It's like herding cats," Blair said of some students' responses to the new format.

In addition to inspiring progressive thought, the play seeks to help hurting women financially as well. Ten percent of the play's local profits will go to an organization of the V-Day Foundation's choosing. The remainder will be directed to charities that locally support ending violence against women. WISE has chosen to sponsor both a new scholarship at JSU and Day-break Crisis Recovery Center, where Fleming-Smith works as the community programs manager for the center's seven counties.

But before the curtains can swing open, however, Fleming-Smith says much remains to be completed. Auditions were held Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. for actresses, but Fleming-Smith says that's only part of the work that lies ahead. The V-Day Foundation, which seeks to bring the play to communities and college campuses, has strict requirements — the script must not be altered in the slightest.

"After the paperwork, you've got to find a spot to have it, support, actresses and a million other little things," Fleming-Smith said. "It's stressful and inspires madness, but it's worth it."

After reading the play's script over ten times, Fleming-Smith calls it one of the best things she has ever read.

"It takes no prisoners," she said. "It's raw, delightfully funny and incredibly moving."

For those who are accepted to professional programs, the hard work is all worth it — and after taking the MCAT (or DAT or PCAT or whichever test their chosen program requires) and sending off their application, all that is left to do is wait.

As Walden readies himself to take the MCAT in July, gathers his books and materials, and

his future of medicine

Election: Presidential race undergoes 11th-hour change

Continued from page 1

she said Wednesday she was prepared to gain the ground she lost. She plans to continue meeting and greeting with campus organizations.

Duff said he is grateful for the job that current SGA President David Jennings has done, explaining that Jennings' did an admirable job of uniting the branches and growing the Organizational Council.

"Part of that is that he is such an approachable, nice, just really good guy," Duff said.

Duff said that last year, after Jennings' victory was announced, Jennings called him, congratulating him on a well-run campaign and offering his best wishes.

"I told him this then, and I'll say it again now. I couldn't have lost to a more deserving candidate," Duff said.

"I want to continue the things that he has done, but I will do them in my way. I always say there is always room for improvement."

If elected, Duff hopes to implement better, more innovative programming for students, and he suggested the possibility of receiving more student input on events like SGA movie nights. He also maintained that communication is key and said he hopes to establish positive relationships with JSU's student media to find new ways to get the word out.

"Flyers have been somewhat overused," Duff said. He also hopes to develop a



Jennifer Nix. Photo by Bethany Harbison / The Chanticleer

system where SGA representatives can attend the meetings of most organizations on campus to educate them about the allocations from the SGA and events that SGA hosts.

For Nix, the SGA presidency would have a special significance. If elected, she would be the first female African Ameri-

can SGA president at JSU.

"It would be great, it would be something that I would never have dreamed possible," Nix said. "I came to school here just being me and just being involved. To be elected SGA president would be the best thing in the world."

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agents for professional programs, the transition from memorizing and regurgitating an encyclopedia of facts to a method that encourages more critical thinking has not been easy.

"It's like herding cats," Blair said of some students' responses to the new format.

According to student Chris Walden, punter for the JSU football team and medical school hopeful, the nature of upper-level science courses makes it crucial for students to receive good advising early on — a luxury that Walden did not have. In his first couple of years at JSU, he was advised outside of the department and was led to "burn up his electives early on," leaving him with nothing to cushion the more difficult laboratory courses.

Blair echoed Walden's thought, saying that the numerous labs biology and chemistry majors take make scheduling especially difficult, both for professors and students—especially with the rocketing numbers of students each member of the pre-health professional committee is expected to advise.

"Laboratories take more time to teach and prepare than a regular lecture, and yet they count for only one credit hour," Blair said. "So when a science ma-

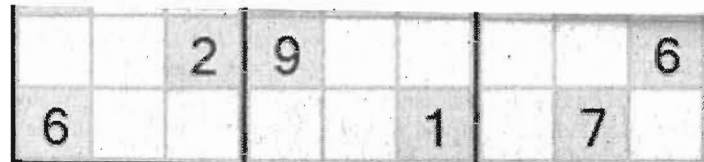
hard work is all worth it — and after taking the MCAT (or DAT or PCAT or whichever test their chosen program requires) and sending off their application, all that is left to do is wait.

As Walden readies himself to take the MCAT in July, gathers his letters of recommendation and strives to make top grades in his remaining classes, he says the matter is out of his hands, and that he is not wasting time worrying about it.

"I'll tell you this—my faith is strong, and if God decides at any point to call me elsewhere, I'm ready," Walden said. "He's paved the way for me so far, with grades and everything else, so I just don't sweat it like other people might."

Blair said while specific statistics on JSU students' performance and acceptance in professional programs are too difficult to track, he estimated that 90 percent are accepted into their first choice schools, and the other 10 percent go to secondary choices.

"I am thrilled when any of our students get into a program," Blair said. "They earn it themselves, but a part of me feels a little bit of pride in the knowledge that we did a good job preparing them for the experience."



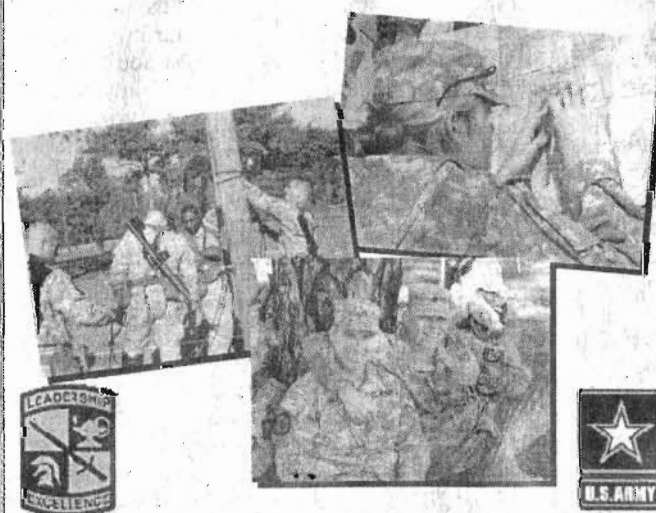
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Freedom House

Aeropostle

A Recovery Home

For Women

Coach

Help Us

Ruff Hewn

Help Others

Harve Bernard

Dooney & Bourke

Ralph Lauren

Tons of:

Shoes
Boots
Coats
Jackets
Pants
Skirts

Tops
Men's
Women's
Kid's Clothes
Housewares

Appliances
Computers
Accessories
Jewelry
Purses
Odds & Ins

VOTE

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OUR VOICE

Marijuana's new science

When advocates of marijuana legalization defend their stance, they usually do so with the argument that there is no verifiable data to suggest the drug presents any real harm to its users.

But now, it appears the scientific tide is turning away from such assertions. The results of recent medical studies are beginning to change the way advocates and opponents should evaluate the legalization debate.

In December 2007, scientists at Health Canada (the equivalent of the Department of Health and Human Services) conducted a survey to investigate the toxins present in cannabis smoke. Their research turned up 20 times as much ammonia and four times as much hydrogen cyanide than can be found in typical cigarettes.

A study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and featured in a Feb. 7 story on NPR's *Morning Edition*, found people

who smoke marijuana regularly have a higher risk of gum disease, tooth decay and tooth loss. Additionally, researchers suspect frequent marijuana usage could weaken the immune system and inflammatory response.

The evidence is building, and it doesn't look favorable for the "marijuana is harmless" crowd. The old talking points are losing credence with every new piece of data that is released.

It's true that the people who want marijuana are going to get it, regardless of legality. It's also true that legalization doesn't mean the next day no one shows up for work and store shelves are cleaned of their Cheetos stock.

But it does mean that the legalization argument should be losing steam. And rightfully so. Marijuana should not be legalized. Except for under the most dire of medicinal reasons, the drug has no place in our legal system.

Science is finally backing that stance.

YOUR VOICE

No school spirit in



DAVE DILLON

Political Cartoonist

Sony and Blu-ray's big payday

Next-gen movie format battle over with HD-DVD's demise

Remember Betamax?

...

Sure you do!

It was the video format that revolutionized how people watched movies in their home.

Oh wait. That was VHS, which beat Betamax.

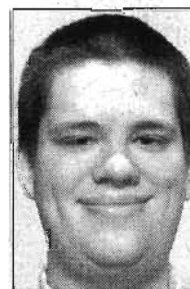
That battle has been over for decades now, but the new format fight between HD-DVD and Blu-ray is just heating up.

Oh. That fight's over too, now.

Blu-ray has emerged victorious in the hi-def disc format war. Toshiba effectively waved the white flag for their HD-DVD format on Feb. 19, when the company officially announced that it would no longer produce HD-DVD players.

This makes Blu-ray the standard disc format for high definition movie watching. You can finally take advantage of that \$3,000 HDTV you just *had* to have.

So, what put Blu-ray on top of the hi-def



Chris Pittman

chantyweb@gmail.com

sold one million of their HD-DVD devices.

Sony took quite a gamble by opting for a Blu-ray drive, but it looks to be paying off in a big way.

Warner Bros. was also a major player in the war. The movie giant announced in January that it would be dropping support for HD-DVD in June. Many

other film companies quickly followed with similar announcements.

This caused distributors such as Wal-Mart and Best Buy to abandon the format.

At this point, the damage was irreversible and the winner was clear.

But what does this news mean for "movie buff Matt?"

All of the big movie companies are on

I know the main question on your mind: "But what about my precious DVD collection? I just got Hannah Montana Live From Montana 4!"

Well first of all, she's only 15, you pervert.

But don't worry about those 400 DVDs you have on the shelf. The beauty of Blu-ray is that most players are backwards compatible and support both CDs and DVDs.

Oh, it looks like you have another concern. Let me guess. You want to know when movie companies will stop making DVDs?

Well you can rest easy. The DVD is far from dead and will be supported for several more years. DVD players are in so many homes that motion picture companies would be stupid to abandon the format completely.

As a consumer, I encourage everyone to embrace the one-format future that is Blu-ray. It might have a really stupid name, but

YOUR VOICE

No school spirit in the Chanticleer

As an avid sports fan, I pick up the *Chanticleer* to look for the latest information on our Gamecock athletics. To see when the next match ups are and to keep up with the current happenings and standings of all the athletic programs that represent our school. Every athletic team needs support and a fan base for their program to thrive. A school's fans give their athletes something to play for and create an exciting atmosphere that breeds success on the field.

The recent tone that is being expressed by the *Chanticleer* makes no one want to attend games or support JSU athletics. They bash the teams that are down on their luck with harsh headlines, which rubs salt in the already open wounds of the athletes. Everyone who has any knowledge of sports knows that only one team wins the championship. The same person also knows their team will not always be that team. Whether or not JSU is holding up the trophy at the end or

scraping the bottom of the conference, a true school newspaper encourages and supports its athletes.

I will give the *Chanticleer* credit for the coverage of campus issues and they do all the things that you would expect from a school paper. However, the lack of school spirit expressed from the *Chanticleer* directly deprives our athletics of adequate student turnout and support. The degradation and exploitation of internal issues of our athletic programs is not the way to building team morale and student support. Students want to be proud of their school and not embarrassed to be a Gamecock. That is why our campus publication should choose its words more wisely in the future because you never know who you are going to have an impression on.

So I ask the staff at the *Chanticleer*, set an example and be the biggest Gamecock on campus.

— Skylar (no last name given)

Editor's rebuttal:

While we appreciate yours and any other student's passion to be a Gamecock, the assertion that it is a student newspaper's job to be a beacon of school spirit and to always root for the home team simply is not true. It is a student paper's — any paper's — job to get the facts straight.

Right now, the *fact* is that most of our teams stink.

Until that isn't true, our tone will be the same.

For what it's worth, we think our spring teams will be with any other OVC team right there at the end. We hope that to be true because we are as tired as anyone else of being bottom feeders.

mat on Feb. 19, when the company officially announced that it would no longer produce HD-DVD players.

This makes Blu-ray the standard disc format for high definition movie watching. You can finally take advantage of that \$3,000 HDTV you just *had* to have.

So, what put Blu-ray on top of the hi-def plateau?

Sony's own PlayStation 3 can be attributed to a big portion of the success. The company has sold nearly 10 million of their combination game and Blu-ray movie machines.

In comparison, Toshiba has only recently

other film companies quickly followed with similar announcements.

This caused distributors such as Wal-Mart and Best Buy to abandon the format.

At this point, the damage was irreversible and the winner was clear.

But what does this news mean for "movie buff Matt?"

All of the big movie companies are on board with Blu-ray now, so you will be able to enjoy and collect all of your favorite films on one format. This is much more convenient than having everything split up and buying two different machines to accommodate.

from dead and will be supported for several more years. DVD players are in so many homes that motion picture companies would be stupid to abandon the format completely.

As a consumer, I encourage everyone to embrace the one-format future that is Blu-ray. It might have a really stupid name, but one format assures that you will be spending less money on machines to watch your favorite movies with brilliant quality and sound.

And that's not stupid at all.

SGA elections time to show school pride

By Zach Childree
Staff Reporter

As you drive (or walk) around campus, you will see large sheets with giant Technicolor letters — some with glitter — blowing in the wind or lying on the lawn. It can only mean one thing: It's Student Government Association election time again.

But can you honestly say who is running for office? Do you know who is running for SGA president? How about for the three vice president positions? No?

That's okay. Neither do I.

In fact, a lot of students all over campus are amazingly unaware of who is trying to get their vote in the upcoming elections.

I wish I could blame it on student apathy, or even low budget campaigning, but these things only part of the problem. While interviewing for a recent article I wrote for the *Chanticleer*, a question was posed to me that stayed in my head: Does JSU lack traditions?

I'm convinced that we as a school do indeed lack the traditions of larger universities. Like rolling toilet paper on trees on Toomer's Corner in Auburn, or cheering "Rammer Jammer" before 'Bama games in Tuscaloosa.

Traditions are established because of pride in your university.

Do the students here at JSU lack pride in the school? Looking around at all the Cocky



Photo by Kevin Jeffers / *The Chanticleer*

T-shirts, one would guess not.

But wearing something with your school's name on it doesn't necessarily constitute pride in your school any more than wearing a cross makes you a Christian or going to see *Fiddler on the Roof* makes you Jewish.

It's what you do at school that shows your pride. It's what you do at school when you don't have to be there that really shows pride in your university.

They say the world is run by those who show up, so let's all start showing up by voting in something as simple as an SGA election. The more we show up, the more pride we have in a community that we help create

every day.

So take a little pride in your university, and find out who wants to represent you in the SGA.

If you think it doesn't matter, just remember that the SGA brings your concerns as a student to those who have the power to create change at the university. The SGA decides which student organizations get funding. The SGA is very important to your life as a student, and you get to pick who leads it.

That is, if you show up.

If we all show up on SGA Election Day, we can make JSU a school to be proud of.

The Chanticleer

Student newspaper of JSU since 1934

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The Chanticleer is the newspaper of the Jacksonville State University community. Copies of *The Chanticleer* are distributed across the JSU campus weekly on Thursdays during the fall and spring semesters.

Single copies are free from newsstands. Unauthorized removal of multiple copies will be considered theft and prosecuted as such.

Letters Policy:

The Chanticleer welcomes letters to the editor. Letters for publication must be limited to 300 words and must be typed. Letters may be hand-delivered or sent through campus mail to our offices in **Room 180, Self Hall**, or to the mailing address to the left. Letters may also be e-mailed to chantyeditor@gmail.com.

The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous or defamatory. Letters may be edited for style, brevity or clarity. *The Chanticleer* reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission. Letters must be received by noon on the Monday prior to desired publication date. There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person. Rebuttals will be published no later than two weeks after publication of the article, editorial or letter in question.

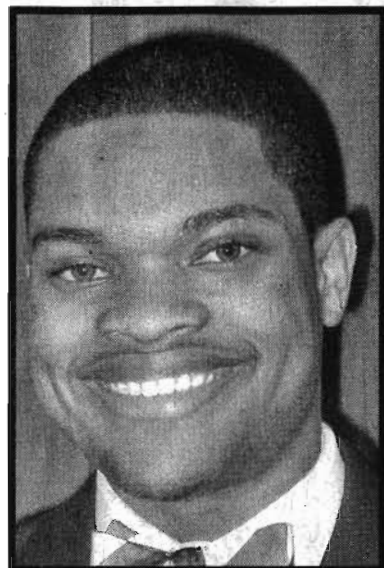
Elections to be held on the 3rd floor of the TMB Auditorium on Tuesday, March 4 and Wednesday, March 5

THE CANDIDATES, IN THEIR OWN WORDS

SGA PRESIDENT

MOODY DUFF III

Senior from Birmingham, Ala.
Political Science / Pre-Law



What's the one thing about the SGA that needs the most improvement? I believe the one thing we need to improve is student involvement! In order for our SGA to strive we must bring the STUDENTS back into the STUDENT Government Association.

Strength: I am a very determined person. I never give up on something I believe in.

Weakness: I am somewhat of a perfectionist. That sometimes can work to my advantage and other times to my disadvantage.

Slogan: "Progress is a Process."

Let's move the SGA forward. TOGETHER. Vote Moody Duff III SGA President!"

Platform: 4 Point Plan — 1) Motivate the campus to get involved with the SGA through NEW programming, activities and entertainment. 2) Excite the student body by increasing school spirit. 3) Promote the use of new safety measures to ensure a safe environment for all students. 4) Keep the SGA moving forward, doing bigger and better things for the student body.

Jennifer Nix

Senior from Jemison, Ala.
Psychology



Career ambition: To be a counselor and work with kids SGA needs to improve: The involvement because the students just don't participate in SGA. We need everyone to know and feel they are a part of the SGA.

Strengths: Social and leadership skills
Best thing about JSU: The people that you meet and the friends you make.

Favorite Class: Oral communications

Random fact: Play piano

Slogan: Win with Nix.

Platform: As SGA President, I want to use the 3 E's. First,

we must EMPHASIZE the value of the SGA. We need to maximize the knowledge in every student that they are all members and that everyone has a voice. Next, we have to EDUCATE students of the vast opportunities available to them through the SGA. We have to let students know that anyone can get involved. And last, we must ELEVATE the energy of the student body. The same fire that we start with we must end with. Let's make SGA more than a group of letters, but a way of life!

VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT SENATE

JeLisa Tanniehill

Sophomore from Graysville, Ala.
Graphic Design / Communications



What's the one thing about JSU's SGA that needs the most improvement?

Involvement! We need to not only make sure the students know what is going on but make them want to get involved by improving our events and bringing to experiences.

Favorite class you have taken JSU: My English 101 class with Ms. Teresa Reed. It was a service learning class, and we volunteered in the community.

Campaign slogan: I'm not making promises but getting things done!

Goal for the Student Senate: To bring the students back to

the SGA. Without the rest of the student body, the SGA cannot grow. To me everything is connected. If we can get students involved in the SGA, then JSU as a whole will grow and become more prosperous.

Platform: "Bridging the Gap: Bringing the Students back into the Student Government Association." I will do this by making it easier for students to get involved. Having places around campus for them to sign up for events and voice their opinions. Also making the Senate student-friendly and easy to follow. Making sure that the students are aware of what the Senate is doing ahead of time.

What's the one thing about the SGA that needs the most improvement? Activities & entertainment for the student body are just planned out and expected to be well-attended.

The student body does not have a say in what type of activities are being planned. We also need activities for the students that stay on the weekends or for more students to stay during the weekends.

Best thing about JSU: The campus is small enough where everyone can get to know your name but big enough to participate in a wide range of activities on campus.

Campaign Slogan: Making

Real Plans for Real People

Platform: My platform for this campaign is comprised of three strong parts in which I feel that I can bring to the Senate.

Each senator needs to be responsible for writing bills and resolutions to improve the campus life and student body.

Efficiency needs to be put into place to make sure all business is being handled in a timely manner. And also communication needs to be established with the student body to get them involved and also to let them know what the student senate is doing for them.



Tyrone Smiley

Junior from Birmingham, Ala.
Communications / Marketing

VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Kelly Wright

Sophomore from Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Elementary education

Jacolby Parks

Sophomore from Sumter, S.C.
Communication / Business

VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Kelly Wright
Sophomore from Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Elementary education



Career ambition: I want to be a traveling teacher!

The one thing about JSU's SGA that needs the most improvement: I think the enthusiasm directed towards the SGA needs to improve. We need to get people pumped up about events!

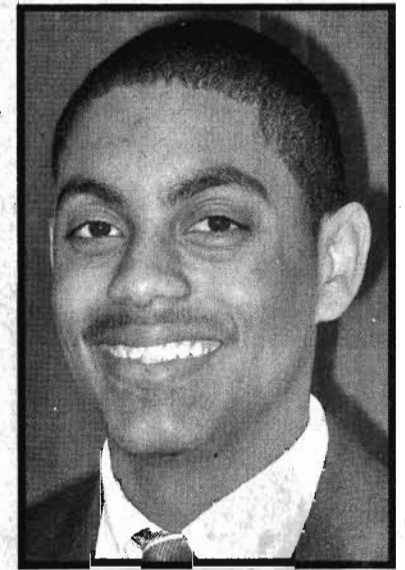
Best thing about JSU: Everywhere I go people are so friendly! Everyone always says hey and smiles.

Slogan: With a name like Wright, how can you go wrong?

Platform: My name is Kelly Wright, and I'm running for Vice President of Student Activities. This past year I

have been a SGA Senator and STARS committee head, which has prepared me tremendously for this position. My plan (known as the Wright Plan) is based on three goals. These three goals include: 1) Developing activities that are actively engaging with the community (local schools and faculty). 2) To host events that are more inviting and appealing for all the students. 3) To give students an opportunity to broaden their perspective through meeting people. I have a heart for this campus, and I want you all to know that I'm here for YOU!

Jacolby Parks
Sophomore from Sumter, S.C.
Communication / Business



Career ambition: I want to work in public relations.

Strengths: Leadership, time management, dedication and responsibility.

Weaknesses: If I had to choose one, I'd say ... I really can't think of one. I'm really not a weak person.

SGA needs to improve: The attendance at SGA activities.

Favorite class at JSU: Intro to Broadcast Writing with Mr. Chandler

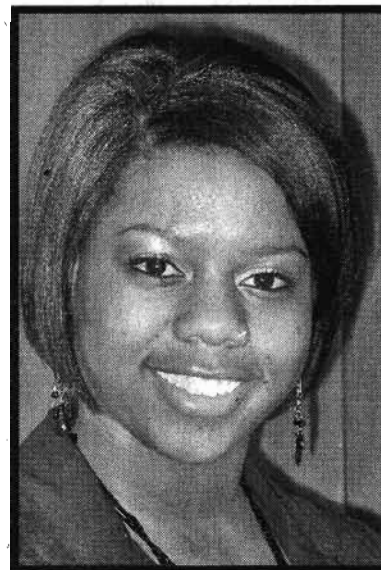
Slogan: The future starts with Jacolby Parks.

Platform: My three platforms for the position are Provide, Support and Increase. I plan to provide the

student body with motivation, dedication, and 110% of hard work to get the students activities they want on campus. I plan to provide activities that would get students of different races, cultural backgrounds and religions together as one to support the statement that Jacksonville State University is the friendliest school in the south. I plan to provide activities that will help out other foundations off campus like Big Brother, Big Sister and the Boys and girls club of America. If voting for me is wrong, then you don't want to be right.

VICE PRESIDENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS

Destini Mayberry
Senior from Birmingham, Ala.
Biology / Psychology



The one thing about JSU's SGA that needs the most improvement: The involvement of the students.

Strengths: My outgoing personality and my ambition.

Weakness: Would have to be overanalyzing and being a perfectionist.

The best thing about JSU: EVERYTHING!! This is truly the "Friendliest Campus in the South."

Favorite class that I have taken at JSU: Would have to be Oral Communications, I love public speaking.

Random fact about myself: I love to swim. I can swim like a fish!

The craziest thing I've ever done: I jumped in the

Guntersville River in the winter.

Slogan: Past. Present. PROGRESS!!

Platform:

1) Past
Erasing the past image of the Organizational Council and the office of Vice President of Organizational Affairs.

2) Present
I am currently working as VPOA to increase attendance and Organizational Unity by hosting events and community service projects.

3) PROGRESS
I have laid and would like to continue on a foundation that can lead to success for all organizations on campus!

Shade' Nix
Junior from Maplesville, Ala.
Biology / Exercise Science and Wellness



Career ambition: To become a doctor of physical therapy

Strengths: I am a hard worker.

Weaknesses: I don't think that I have any weaknesses.

Favorite class: Ecology, I love Dr. Carter.

Slogan: Serving you now and looking forward to serving you later.

Platform: The one thing that I would love to improve about JSU is the unity between the organizations, SGA and the community. I would like to see all the organizations come out and support another organization's event. I would like to see the organizations come together to host different

events on campus and in the community. I would also like to help the organizations fulfill their intended purposes at JSU. I believe that every organization has a purpose on the campus, and I want to make sure that they feel needed and appreciated. I want to help build a strong line of communication between the organizations and the students on and off campus. Participation is something that can be improved at the various functions hosted on campus. It is so important that the students on and-off campus know about these events so that they can participate. These are just a few things that I would like to see done.

OTHER RACES ON MARCH 4, 5

Miss Friendly

Meredith Harvey
Angela Frazier
Lindsey Marie Minton
Kelly Wright

Alpha Omicron Pi
Independent
Delta Zeta
Phi Mu

Claudia Cauthen
Jasmine George
Carrie Hicks
Lacey Kinsey
Ebony Ortiz
Alexis Tyson

Miss Jax State

Delta Zeta
Independent
Phi Mu
Alpha Omicron Pi
ROTC
Independent

Mr. Friendly

Manny Sablon
Sam Suttle

Zach Patterson
Davis Varner

Alpha Omicron Pi
Phi Mu

Mr. Jax State

Alpha Omicron Pi
Phi Mu

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Now the Army gives you more choices for your future. Earn up to \$40,000 to start the business of your dreams or buy the home you always wanted. Log onto goarmy.com/aaf to learn more about the Army Advantage Fund.

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U.S. ARMY

ARMY STRONG.



Sports

GAMECOCK
BRIEFS

• Jacksonville State junior **Michael Dickinson** was one of five OVC athletes to receive a bid to compete at the **NCAA Rifle Championships** on Tuesday. Dickinson will be competing in the smallbore part of the competition. The event is to be held in West Point, New York, on March 14th and 15th. This will be Dickinson's third trip to the NCAA Championships. He will be looking to lock up his second consecutive national championship. Dickinson earned All-OVC honors two weeks ago during the OVC Championships.

• The **Jacksonville State rifle team** missed qualifying for the NCAA Championships as a team for the first time in five years. The top eight teams in both the smallbore and air rifle events were chosen based on the average of the three highest regular-season aggregate scores with no more than one match at any given site. The Gamecocks missed the cut by just one place despite winning their NCAA sectional.

• Jacksonville State junior **Jonathan Toles** was named the **OVC Newcomer of the Week** on Monday afternoon for his performance against Georgia State in the ESPN-U BracketBusters game on Saturday night. Toles, a native of Montgomery, Ala., earned the award for the second time this season after recording a career-high 23 points, three

The end of an era

Alexandria native Ginn closes out career with Gamecocks

By **Jered Staubs**
Sports Editor

Local product Will Ginn played his last home game for the Gamecocks last Saturday.

The senior from Alexandria High School has been the team's long-range marksman the past two seasons and has had a reputation for coming up with improbable shots at key times.

Coach Mike LaPlante says Ginn has a propensity to hit clutch shots with the shot clock winding down, and Ginn also hit a game-winning three-pointer from half court to win at SEMO last year.

Ginn has been one of the few reliable Gamecocks from the free-throw line, where he shot 82 percent both last year and this year. The team is shooting below 60 percent as a whole, but LaPlante feels confident when Ginn has the ball in his hands.

"He's hit a lot of big shots," LaPlante said. "That's been the role we've asked him to take, and he's had the courage to take them."

Most recently, Ginn made both a running three-pointer at the first half buzzer against Morehead State and a crucial three at the shot clock buzzer that ended an MSU run late in the second half of JSU's last win.

That win was only JSU's sixth of the season, which Ginn regrets.

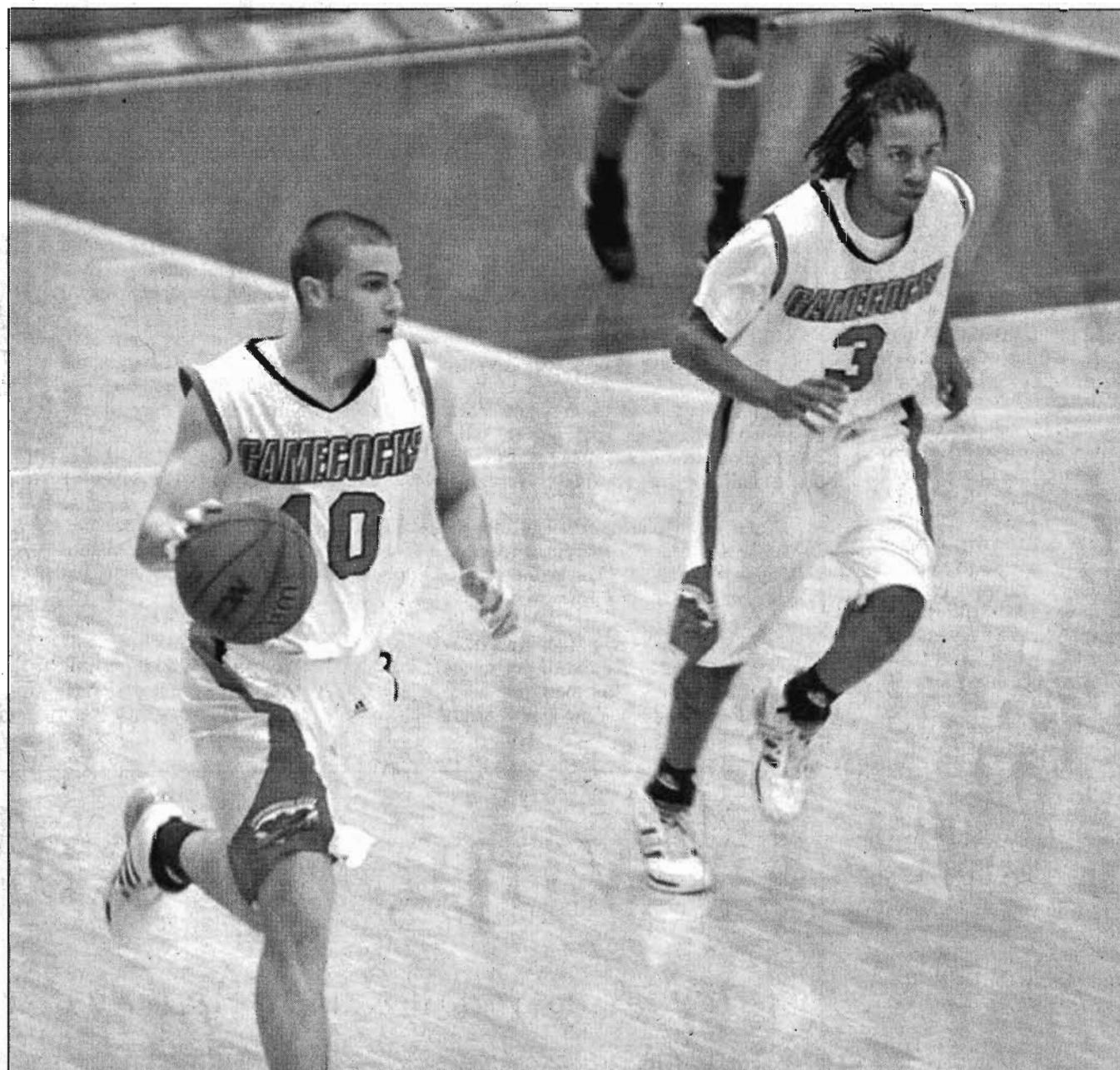
"It's been tough," he said. "If the season would've started right now and we could play it all over, I think it would be a whole new story. We really just had some bad luck this year."

The win over Morehead was JSU's second in a row, and Ginn believes that the quality of play his team has exhibited lately is the result of playing with no pressure.

"It seemed like when that (losing streak) was over, it was like we're just playing to win just like you would out in a pickup game," he said. "It's more relaxed, and just everybody's playing a lot more aggressive."

Ginn and Erik Adams were both honored on Senior Night last Saturday.

At the start of the year, JSU had three seniors — Ginn, Adams, and last



Jacksonville State senior Will Ginn dribbles up the court alongside Jonathan Toles earlier this season. Ginn played his last game at Pete Mathews Coliseum on Saturday night. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com / File

season's second leading scorer, Dorian Brown. The three were called upon by LaPlante to help lead a very inexperienced team through what was sure to be growing pains.

Brown unfortunately contributed to

those problems when he was declared academically ineligible after the fall semester, and Adams suffered a debilitating ankle injury on the second day of practice that has hampered him throughout the year.

As a result, Ginn has been the primary senior for the Gamecocks this season. With the loss of Brown and the limitations on Adams, he has led the team in

See "Ginn," page 10

ESPN-U BracketBusters game on Saturday night. Toles, a native of Montgomery, Ala., earned the award for the second time this season after recording a career-high 23 points, three rebounds, three assists and three steals. This marks the fourth week in a row that a member of the JSU men's basketball team has brought home one of the OVC's weekly honors.

• Tennessee State guard **Kendra Appling** was named the **OVC Player of the Week** after her performance against the Gamecocks on Saturday. Appling scored a career-high 50 points against JSU. Her 50-point performance was just one point shy of the OVC and TSU single-game record. She went 19-for-31 from the field and shot 60 percent from three-point range against the Gamecocks.

• Morehead State's **Kari Quinn** was named **OVC Softball Player of the Week** after hitting five home runs and throwing a no-hitter at the Blues City Classic. JSU's **Kylie Jo Chandler** was also nominated for the award.

• **IMG**, the world's premier sports, entertainment and media company, reached an agreement with the **Ohio Valley Conference** to exclusively manage its multimedia rights and sponsorship sales. **IMG's College Division** will represent the OVC in areas such as corporate partnership sales, radio broadcast production and corporate partnership sales, as well as radio broadcast production and distribution for the men's basketball championships and other championship events.

— From staff reports

playing to win. "It's more relaxed, and just everybody's playing a lot more aggressive."

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those problems when he was declared academically ineligible after the fall semester, and Adams suffered a debilitating ankle injury on the second day of practice that has hampered him throughout the year.

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See "Ginn," page 10

Struggling out of the gates

Middle Tennessee State takes advantage of JSU pitching, sweeps Gamecocks

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

The Jacksonville State baseball team took the field on Friday afternoon poised and ready to get the season started off on the right foot, but Middle Tennessee State had other plans sweeping the Gamecocks (1-3) in impressive fashion.

"From a weekend standpoint, I know that we're all disappointed," head coach Jim Case said. "You put a lot in to leading up, and you are excited about getting off to a good start. Obviously, we didn't do that. I don't think that we played the way that we can or will in any area."

JSU's closest game came on Friday, as they lost 6-2. Ben Tootle (0-1) took the mound for the Gamecocks on opening day and allowed five runs over the span of four innings.

Starting pitching hurt JSU's cause all weekend long, as MTSU put up 34 runs over a three-game span. Gamecock pitchers ended the three-game series with a 6.33 ERA.

"We need to do a lot better job of finishing off hitters, especially when we are ahead in the count," Case said. "From a starting standpoint, our job is to go out there and get the game going under control, and we didn't do that. Some of that was defense and some of it was pitching."

On Saturday, the Blue Raiders once again jumped out to an early lead scoring six runs in the first two innings. To make matters worse, the Gamecock offense struggled against Jordan Alvis, who allowed just three hits in five innings of work.

At the end of the day, the scoreboard read 11-3 in favor of the Blue Raiders.

The Gamecock offense came to life in the final game of the series, as Clay Whittemore put the team on his back. A disappointed Whittemore left Rudy Abbott Field on Sunday after going 4-for-5 and tying a career-high with five RBI.

Still his performance wasn't enough, as JSU lost by a count of 17-8 due to two critical fielding errors late in the game.

MTSU jumped out to an early 4-0 lead, but the Gamecocks never gave up. They put up six runs in the bottom of the fourth to take the lead for the first and only time during the weekend series.

Josh Hoyle scored the first run in the fourth after a wild pitch from PJ Francescon. After walking the next two batters, MTSU made a move to the bullpen bringing in Kevin Whittaker.

Blake Seguin then singled down the right field line allowing Daniel Adamson to score and advancing Josh Sanders to third. Kyle McCreary then reached on an error by the second baseman setting up a Whittemore three-run homer that gave the Gamecocks a 7-6 lead.

"We were down by two runs, and the home run put



Senior Danny Andres pitches in the top of ninth inning of JSU's 11-3 loss to Middle Tennessee State on Saturday. The Gamecocks were swept by the Blue Raiders over the weekend. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com

us up by one," Whittemore said. "I thought that was really big for us as a team because that was the first time we had been ahead all weekend. We really came alive there."

"You have to give credit to the guys who were on base," Whittemore added. "Breaks or no breaks, we had a tough time getting on base this weekend, hitting a lot of balls right at people and getting outs. Those guys were able to get on. To me, without those guys on, it doesn't even matter. You've got to give them credit."

The game was close until the last two innings when MTSU scored 10 runs, all unearned, off of Gamecock fielding errors.

"Obviously, the errors were very, very costly," Case said. "The biggest thing that you have to be able to do defensively is make routine plays, and we struggled to make routine plays over the course of the weekend. We're going to have to get better."

One positive coming out of the weekend series is that JSU never gave up until the last out was recorded, something Whittemore considers to be very important going forward.

"It would have been easy for us to come out here flat, but I don't think we did that," Whittemore said.

"Even in the ninth inning, we were down by a good bit, but everybody was still in the game. Nobody was packing up and getting ready to leave. We were in there until the last pitch, and I think that is really important right now. It's almost as important as winning baseball games because if you have that attitude the wins will take care of themselves," Whittemore added.

First win

The Gamecocks used a couple of local players to turn the tide after being swept by MTSU.

Justin King, from Jacksonville High School, took the mound for the second time this season Tuesday afternoon, this time as a starter. He turned in by far the Gamecocks' best starting performance of the year.

King held Millsaps College to two hits and one run in five innings pitched, and he got enough early offensive support for the Gamecocks to coast to an 11-3 victory.

"I think if he throws the way he can, he's going to push somebody for a starting job," Case said. "He put together a good outing the first time he pitched, and he pitched well today. He's just got to continue to do that."

See "Pitching," page 10



Jered Staubs

chantysports@gmail.com

What do you expect?

Albert Einstein was famously quoted as saying that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.

That's what makes the Kelvin Sampson situation so mind-boggling to me. Why are people so surprised that this is happening?

I was ecstatic when I found out Sampson was leaving Oklahoma, but equally perplexed that a renowned school like Indiana would take a chance on him.

Taking a chance isn't really the right way to describe what Indiana did. It was about the equivalent of hitting 20 in blackjack. Sure if you get lucky, you'll be unbeatable.

But nine times out of ten, you're going to bust. And that's exactly what happened to Indiana.

They hired a man who was proven to be trouble. Everyone knew his recruiting tactics were shady at best (he had already been nailed for making over 550 illegal recruiting calls at Oklahoma), and his graduation rates were hideous.

These things stand in direct contrast to the image the Indiana program held for years.

Say what you will about Bobby Knight, but he always ran a clean program. He always made a point of graduating players. And you never heard about troubles in the Indiana program off the court.

Arrested development

Men's team relinquishes big lead, loses to Georgia State on Senior Night

By Jered Staubs
Sports Editor

The JSU men's basketball team took a step back this weekend.

After consecutive wins against quality teams, the Gamecocks reverted to their old ways and blew a 14-point lead against Georgia State.

The Gamecocks' BracketBuster opponent spoiled Senior Night with an 85-78 win at Pete Mathews Coliseum Saturday night.

"We missed a great opportunity to keep building on what we had been doing," coach Mike LaPlante said.

"We had just beaten two teams who were playing very well in our league, and Georgia State is a team that would be near the top of our league. Beating them would have gone a long way for this team."

Things started well for the Gamecocks, as juniors Jonathan Toles and DeAndre Bray both scored in double figures in the first half and ended the night with career highs in points.

Toles had 18 in the first half, but the Panthers appeared determined to make someone else beat them in the second half, and they limited Toles to only five points after the break.

"I came out aggressive, and they made it available for me to get to the hole," Toles said. "But then they made adjustments and made me kick it to my teammates."

Bray, typically a distributor for the Gamecocks, connected on his first five shots of the night, all from three-point range and ended with 15 points.

"It was still pass-first tonight," Bray said. "But I know I can make that shot, so it was me receiving the ball in a good spot and making the shot."

The Gamecocks rolled to a 50-40 halftime lead and extended that early in the second half, but Georgia State found an answer. The Panthers scored on seven consecutive possessions to erase the Gamecocks' lead less than nine minutes into the second half.

"We didn't play defense in the second half," Bray said. "We'd miss our shot, not rebound, not get back, and they'd score in transition."

After struggling in the first half, Georgia State shot 14-for-24 from the floor, 4-for-8 from the three-point line and 13-for-15 from the free throw line in the second half.

Georgia State had a 39-25 advantage on the glass, and that was a telling difference down the stretch, even after center Deven Dickerson fouled out. The Panthers scored 23 second-chance points, while the Gamecocks managed only three.

"They kept getting offensive rebounds, so I guess we need to work back on that," Toles said. "We had been doing a little better, but they beat us up pretty good on the boards, and that killed us."

The physical game saw three separate



Jonathan Toles drives to the hole for two of his career-high 23 points against Georgia State. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com

players lay on the court for over a minute after hard fouls. Amadou Mbodji and Zack Winston both crashed into the basket support for the Gamecocks, but were able to walk off the court.

Despite the difficult nature of the loss, Toles was able to maintain a positive

outlook.

"The future's looking good," he said. "We're feeling better about ourselves, playing better, our chemistry's getting better. We've had some ups and downs, but these past three or four games show what we can do."

Giving up half a hundred

Tennessee State's Kendra Appling drops 50 on Gamecocks in 91-77 win

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

The Jacksonville State women's basketball team came in to Saturday night's tilt against Tennessee State looking to lock up a spot in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament, but Kendra Appling wouldn't have any part of it.



OVC STANDINGS

Team	OVC
SEMO	16-2
Samford	14-4
Murray St.	13-5
EIU	13-5
TSU	9-9
EKU	8-10

for the Tigers.

The lone bright spot for JSU was sophomore Jolie Efezokhae. She matched her career high with 30 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to record her seventh career double-double.

Freshman Cierra Duhart was the only other Gamecock starter to score in double figures, as she added 13.

contrast to the image the Indiana program held for years. Say what you will about Bobby Knight, but he always ran a clean program. He always made a point of graduating players. And you never heard about troubles in the Indiana program off the court.

When you're talking about positions that will be in the national limelight, you simply cannot be too careful.

You know, I always thought George O'Leary got a raw deal after his unfortunate situation with Notre Dame. And to his credit, he's done very well at Central Florida since they took a chance on him.

But here's what Notre Dame realized. When your university is defined by how it does in one particular sport (i.e. Notre Dame football or Indiana basketball), that sport better keep its nose spotless.

Even embellishing a resume, as O'Leary did, is too serious an offense to be ignored.

Somehow, Indiana AD Rick Greenspan missed that day in common sense class.

I'm sure he's pretty competent overall, and I especially liked his hire of former football coach Terry Hoepfner.

Hoepfner didn't pan out for health reasons, which were totally unpredictable. But there was nothing unpredictable about Sampson getting IU into trouble with the NCAA.

When you live and die with your basketball program, and you make a mistake of that magnitude in your hiring, you've got to go.

And you sure can't feign surprise and disappointment like Greenspan has since the allegations were made public.

More embarrassing than that is the manner in which Sampson continues to conduct himself.

After Indiana beat lowly Northwestern, Sampson was up to his old tricks. He text messaged multiple players with his congratulations, which is a great way of undermining the coach who is left in your wake.

Coach, stop making a nuisance of yourself. Just disappear for a while, let the Indiana program forget about the dark days in which you were in charge — as the Oklahoma program is starting to do now that Jeff Capel has taken over — and let people forget about you.

As long as he proves unable to follow the most basic of NCAA rules, anyone even thinking of hiring him is insane.

The Jacksonville State women's basketball team came in to Saturday night's tilt against Tennessee State looking to lock up a spot in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament, but Kendra Appling wouldn't have any part of it.

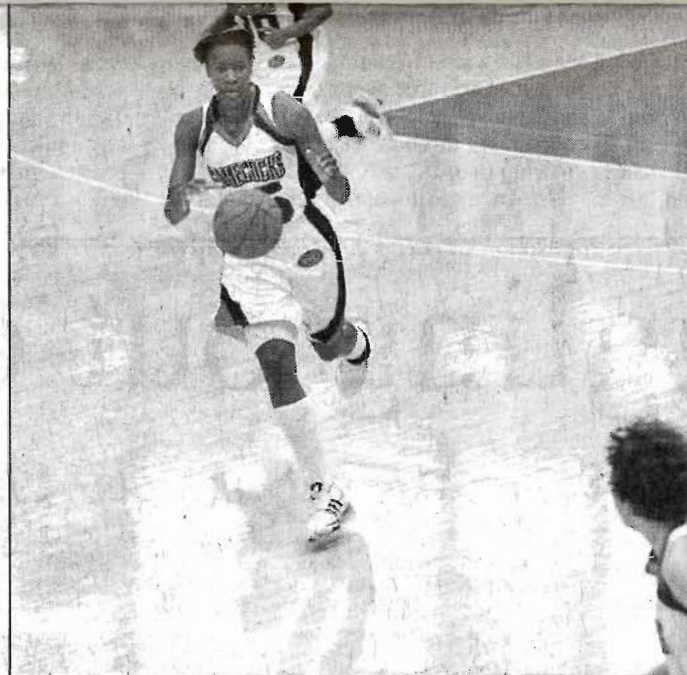
Appling dropped 50 points on the Gamecocks (11-16, 8-10 OVC) in the Tigers 91-77 victory at the Gentry Center.

Appling's 50 is the highest point total registered by any opposing player since the Gamecocks joined the OVC.

"We just didn't play well defensively," JSU coach Becky Geyer said. "Gosh, we allowed them to get a lot of really easy shots."

The game was close throughout the first half, but the Gamecocks were still not on top of their game. They went into the locker room down by just one, but things got worse in a hurry.

"Even though it was just a one-point game at half, we just didn't play well," Geyer said. "If one person isn't in help-side defense, where they need to be, it's going to throw everything



Jolie Efezokhae matched her career high with 30 points and also added 10 rebounds in the Gamecocks loss at Tennessee State. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com / File

off. That's just the way it goes."

The Gamecocks took the lead on their first offensive possession of the second half, but TSU responded immediately

going on a 37-9 run in just under 11 minutes to go up by 27.

Appling was the catalyst for the Tigers, scoring 24 points in the first half and 26 in the second.

Team	OVC
SEMO	16-2
Samford	14-4
Murray St.	13-5
EIU	13-5
TSU	9-9
EKU	8-10
JSU	8-10
Tenn. Tech	7-12
Morehead	7-11
Austin Peay	3-15
UT-Martin	2-17

• The top eight teams earn a bid to the OVC tournament.

"Again, our defense just wasn't up to par with where it needed to be," Geyer said. "No doubt, she got hot. She hit a few, and she was feeling it. About every time she shot, it went in."

"On the other hand, we didn't execute," Geyer added. "We were supposed to trap her every time she caught it in the second half, and we just didn't do a good job of executing that."

TSU's Oby Okafor also had a nice night putting up 21 points

She matched her career high with 30 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to record her seventh career double-double.

Freshman Cierra Duhart was the only other Gamecock starter to score in double figures, as she added 13.

JSU has still yet to clinch a spot in the OVC tournament. However, they can do so with one more win or a Tennessee Tech or Morehead State loss.

"A lot of the factors are going to depend on what happens with the other teams," Geyer said. "If Murray beats Tech, we're in. If Morehead loses one game, we're in. Again, is there a good chance that one of those two scenarios is going to happen? Yes. Are you absolutely sure? No."

The Gamecocks will finish up the regular season this week with games at Eastern Illinois and Southeast Missouri State. With wins, they could possibly move up the conference standings and secure a higher seed in the OVC tournament bracket.

"Definitely if we win one of those games, we are in a much better situation," Geyer said.

My Career My Success My JSU

Dr. Greg Robinson
Distinguished Research
Professor of Chemistry at UGA



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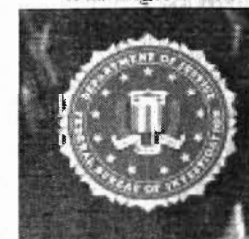
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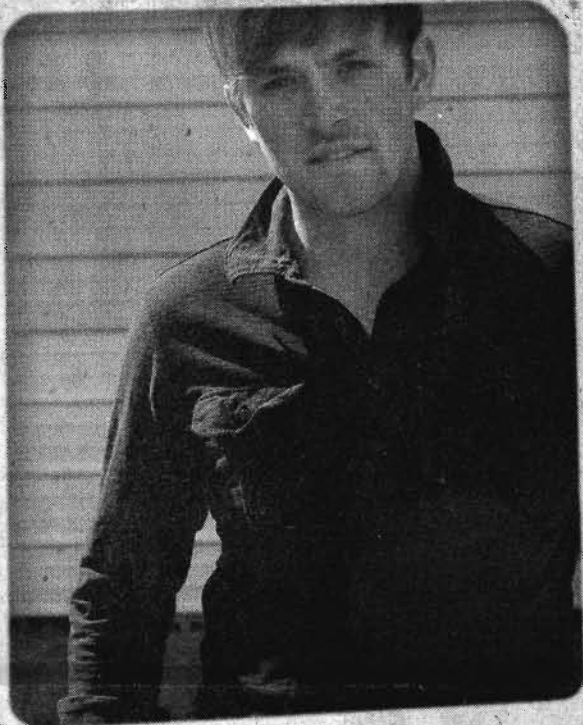


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Freshman duo packing a punch

Clutch performances from Kylie Jo Chandler and Ashley Eliasson seal Gamecock wins over Chattanooga

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

One thing that Jacksonville State's Kylie Jo Chandler doesn't lack is confidence.

The freshman from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, put the JSU softball team (7-5) on her back Wednesday night hitting two game-winning home runs in a double-header against Chattanooga.

"Kylie is a very confident hitter, and that confidence will carry her a long way," JSU coach Jana McGinnis said.

In the first game of the double-header, the Gamecocks clearly looked like the better team in the early going.

After not scoring in the first frame, JSU scored one run in each of the next five innings.

Junior Melissa Dowling appeared to be in line for a complete-game shutout.

Down 5-0 with two out in the top of the seventh, Chattanooga didn't quit. With Tara Tembey on first, Lauren Flores doubled to right center field.

Tembey would score on a wild pitch, and Michelle Fuzzard walked, setting up runners on first and third. Toni Hutchison singled, scoring Tembey and advancing Kristin Holloway, a pinch runner, to second base.

Katie Blevins took care of the rest, blasting a three-run homer to right center field to knot the game at five.

The Gamecocks were unable to score in the bottom of the seventh and the game went into extra innings.

"You see it in sports all the time when you blow a big lead," McGinnis said. "It's hard for the team that blew the big lead to preserve the win."

"We've told these girls all along that we're never out. Don't ever think we're beat until that last out is made."

In the top of the eighth, the Lady Mocs went ahead after a wild pitch from Dowling, but they could only muster one run.

In the bottom half of the inning, Jackie Jarman bunted Rachel Fleming to third and set the stages for a dramatic finish.

Chandler calmly walked to the plate and crushed a walk-off two-run homer that gave the Gamecocks a 7-6 victory.

"When we went into extra innings, Kylie said, 'Ya'll are going to bunt Rachel over, and I'm going to hit her in.' And she did it," McGinnis said.

"My first walk-off," Chandler said. "It felt good. I told Jackie, if she got on, I was getting a hit, and I did."

up early in the contest, allowing five earned runs in the first three innings.

To make matters worse, JSU's bats were silenced in the early going by the arm of Kandice Irwin. Irwin held the Gamecocks to just one hit in the first three innings of play.

But in the bottom of the fourth, JSU fought back, scoring six runs to take the lead at 6-5.

Mary Beth Ledbetter started the inning with a walk, and Kayla Collins reached base by beating out a fielder's choice.

The Gamecocks then turned to Allie Barker who singled up the middle plating JSU's first run of the game.

Collins and Barker both advanced on a wild pitch. Collins was eventually thrown out at home after Whitney Elder hit into a fielder's choice.

With two outs, Courtney Underwood and Jackie Jarman hit back-to-back singles, scoring both Barker and Elder.

With two on, Chandler hit her second home run of the day putting the Gamecocks up for good.

"I kind of knew I needed to get it done," Chandler said. "Everybody steps up in their own time, and I guess today was my time to step up. I try never to go out swinging for the fence, but it ended up just working out tonight."

Chandler finished the night 3-for-7 with two home runs and five runs batted in.

After the first three innings, Eliasson (3-1) settled down and didn't give up another run the rest of the way. She finished the game with five strikeouts.

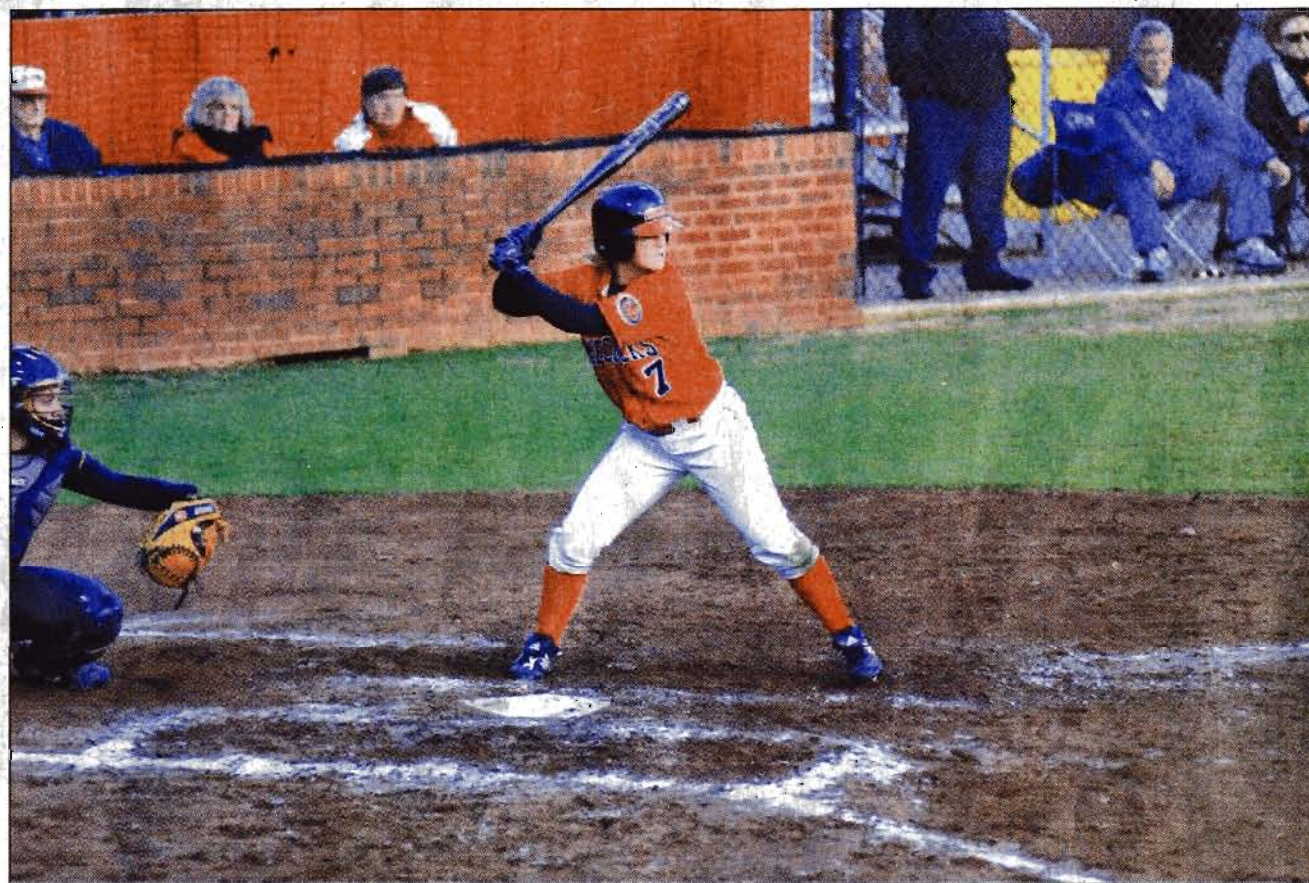
"I was very proud of Ashley Eliasson. After we took the lead, she didn't give up anymore," McGinnis said.

"Her composure is one trait that is going to carry her a long way. That's a must in the pitchers' circle. When she learns to hit those corners like she did in the last four innings and learns how to make smart pitches, she is going to be a tough pitcher," McGinnis added.

The Gamecocks will travel to Oxford, Mississippi, this weekend to take part in the Ole Miss Red and Blue Classic.

JSU is slated to play five games over a three-day span. Their opponents will include Belmont, Troy, Stephen F. Austin, Louisiana Tech and tournament host Ole Miss.

"How big was Kylie Jo Chandler? A freshman



ABOVE: Freshman Kylie Jo Chandler awaits a pitch from Chattanooga's Brooke Loudermilk in the first game of JSU's double-header against the Lady Mocs. BELOW: Freshman Ashley Eliasson in the pitching circle. Photo courtesy of James Harkins / JSUFan.com



and crushed a walk-off two-run homer that gave the Gamecocks a 7-6 victory.

"When we went into extra innings, Kylie said, 'Ya'll are going to bunt Rachel over, and I'm going to hit her in.' And she did it," McGinnis said.

"My first walk-off," Chandler said. "It felt good. I told Jackie, if she got on, I was getting a hit, and I did."

Dowling pitched all eight innings for JSU and improved her overall record to 3-3.

In the second game of the night, freshman Ashley Eliasson got roughed

a one-out span. Their opponents will include Belmont, Troy, Stephen F. Austin, Louisiana Tech and tournament host Ole Miss.

"How big was Kylie Jo Chandler? A freshman stepping up there and getting that big hit."

— Jana McGinnis



Gamecock tennis falls to Auburn, Samford

By Jared Gravette
Assistant Sports Editor

The Jacksonville State women's tennis team was swept by Auburn 7-0 last Saturday in a non-conference match at the Yarbrough Tennis Facility.

The Tigers came in ranked 30th in the country fresh off an SEC West title. JSU coach Steve Bailey thinks that playing such stiff competition will help the Lady Gamecocks in the long run.

"It's the first time we've played Auburn in a while," Bailey said. "They are a very strong SEC team. They hit it hard and had some good plays."

"I think it's good for us to play that kind of competition. I think it's good for us," Bailey added. "Once we get into our conference, I think it will help us."

Auburn won 12 of the 13 sets throughout the day. Babette Lombardo was the only Gamecock to take a set from the Tigers, but she ultimately was defeated by Heather Bybee after winning the first set of their match.

Despite the loss, the members of the JSU tennis squad enjoyed their short stay in Auburn, and Bai-

ley will likely try to schedule another match with the Tigers next year.

"The girls enjoyed it, so we are going to try to get them back on the schedule next year and make it kind of a yearly event," Bailey said.

The women's squad dropped another non-conference match to Samford later in the week.

The men's tennis team also lost to Samford in a heartbreaker. The Gamecocks earned the doubles point, but the Bulldogs held their own in the singles portion of the match defeating JSU 4-3.

"We were kind of disappointed because we got the doubles point and went ahead 1-0. Then we were up 3-2, and Samford came back. We had two three-setters, and we had a chance to win both matches. We ended up losing them both in the third set."

"It's disappointing. You're always disappointed when you lose, but Samford is a big rival. So, we were kind of disappointed after the match. We thought we should have won that one. We kind of let it slip away," Bailey added.

The two Gamecocks to win singles matches on Tuesday were Joey Unkenholz and Andres Amores, who both won in straight sets.

Pitching: Gets a boost from Justin King

Continued from page 7

"There's no doubt about his arm, there's no doubt about his breaking ball. He's just got to continue putting those outings back to back and good things will happen whether he is a starter or in the bullpen."

Todd Cunningham got hits in three of his four at bats to boost his average to a team-best .455. The freshman switch-hitter was appearing in only his third game, but did a good job getting on base in front of Whittemore.

Cunningham didn't hit the ball particularly hard, but managed to find his way aboard. Two of his hits were infield singles, and the other was a well-placed line drive the opposite way.

Cunningham was a teammate of King when Jacksonville High went to the state championship in 2005.

"It's good to see Justin throwing strikes," Cunningham said. "He had that surgery that led to problems with his control, but it looks like he's throwing good again."



17

The number of unearned runs **Jim Case's** Gamecocks have allowed through four games on the way to a 1-3 start this season.

After an Andrew Edge sac fly gave the Gamecocks the lead in the bottom of the first, John David Smelser delivered his first career hit in the second — a two-run triple — that gave King and the bullpen some breathing room.

The patient Gamecocks drew nine walks — eight off Millsaps starter Tait Hendrix — and scored in six of the eight innings they batted.

JSU had extended its lead to 7-1 by the time King left the game. Brian Booth and J.T. Wright pitched the final four innings, and both struck out four and allowed one unearned run.

While the unearned runs

didn't cost his team this win, Case still was not pleased at the defense his team played.

"We've got to be better defensively," he said. "We were outside a lot, we played a lot of scrimmages, and I'm not sure that it's because it's so early in the season."

"I'm not really sure why we're seeing those errors. I think we're a better defensive team than we've shown, and we're going to continue to get better as the season goes along."

To read about the second and final game of the Millsaps series, to be played Wednesday at 3 p.m., visit thechanticleeronline.com.

Ginn: Looking to pursue a career in coaching after school

Continued from page 7

minutes played for the second consecutive season.

"Will's a good teammate, he's good at boosting you up," junior Jonathan Toles said. "He's a good leader on the team, and he's funny in his own way. People don't know that about him."

Ginn came to JSU via Gadsden State, where he averaged a double-double. During his time there, Ginn scored 18 points per game and led the nation with 10.67 assists per game.

Choosing Gadsden State over four-year schools that recruited him — most notably Southern Miss — straight out of high school was similar to what his father Larry had done.

Larry Ginn graduated from

JSU in 1973 and eventually became very successful coaching multiple sports at Alexandria High School.

Will played both basketball and football — where he was a first-team all-state quarterback — for him at Alexandria.

Will's two older brothers have already followed their father into the coaching ranks, and Will says that is his goal as well.

"I want to be a teacher and coach," he said. "I'd like to stay in the area, but I realize that's not always easy to have happen for you."

His coach feels those opportunities will present themselves to Ginn because of his character.

"He is the true essence of a student-athlete," coach Mike

LaPlante said. "He's a guy you don't have to motivate to be competitive in the classroom, he is extremely disciplined and committed and loyal and just really willing to do whatever you ask him to do."

Ginn's status as a model student-athlete was evidenced when he received first team All-District Academic honors from ESPN. He was also valedictorian of his high school class.

The unselfish manner in which Ginn carries himself was evidenced in his prediction for next year's Gamecocks team.

"They should be pretty good next year," he predicted. "They have a lot of guys coming back, and we made strides throughout this season."

LaPlante says he knows Ginn will be a success whether he chooses to be a coach or something else.

"That kid's always put everything he's had (into what he does), and that's why he's going to be a success in whatever he does."

That's just the way Ginn says he has always tried to carry himself.

"I've just enjoyed the whole (thing)," he said. "It's all been a joy ride for me. It's all just been fun."

"It's bad that we lost put a damper on it, because if we'd have had a winning season it really would have been something special."

WILL GINN'S CAREER STATS

STAT	NUMBER	AVERAGE
Points	565	9.9
Assists	198	3.5
Rebounds	143	2.5
Three-pointers	123/350	35%
Free throws	64/78	82%

These numbers were compiled through Will Ginn's 57 games at JSU to date. Ginn started all but one of those games and led the team in minutes played in both his seasons with the Gamecocks.